



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- One Day National Doctoral Student Conclave on 5<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2018
- 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society from 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2018
- Two Weeks Refresher Course (I- TEQIP-III ) on Introduction to MATLAB and Research Enhancement Tools from 16<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2018
- 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference Innovative Trends in Mechanical Engineering from 23<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2018

## PATRON

PROF. SANJEEV JAIN

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor

## EDITORIAL TEAM

Dr. Varun K. Tripathi

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## Campus Jottings

## Dr. Subramanian Swamy partakes in Economics Festival 'Artha'



Dr. Subramanian Swamy, a noted economist and Member of Parliament Rajya Sabha, was the Chief Guest of the mega festival 'Artha' organized by School of Economics. 'The objective of an economist in Indian perspective should be to have the ability to blend economic sustenance with spiritual advancements; were the enlightening thoughts shared by him during his address to the young students and faculty members of the University. Impressed with the serenity and modern infrastructure of the University, Dr. Swamy said that he would be willing to take up teaching again in such University. While speaking on the topic 'why one must learn economics', he said that the economics has transformed and now it is a science that would help in shaping the world, with a perspective. One must know economics in holistic way and use it for the development. Dr. Swamy said that each country and region has their comparative advantages and hence an economist must look into the resource competences and address the solutions with micro as well as macro perspectives. Hence an economist must be able to distinguish clearly between micro and macro aspects of economics. Dr. Swamy emphasized upon the core of Indian ethos and culture. He said that the prime objective of the Indian development is attaining happiness; not only profit maximisation or production approach. The young shaping economists must keep the social context and the objective of creating happiness at the core of materialistic development. More materialism leads to more greed and hence more corruption. Dr. Swamy while addressing the young minds emphasized upon the power of women in the society. He said that the women in Indian society have always been given highest importance and that has paved the way for peace and development.

Before the lecture, Dr. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, welcomed the Chief Guest, Dr. Subramanian Swamy, and congratulated the students of School of Economics for the mega event. He said that learning is the bank of understanding and the SMVD University provides an avenue for the learning and overall development of the students. Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay, Dean, Faculty of Management, welcomed the esteemed guest and said that the academic environment in the University provides for a wholesome development of the students. The occasion was graced by, Prof. V.K. Bhat, Registrar, Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Dean of Students, Dr. Pabitra Jena, In-charge Head, School of Economics, faculty staff and students and colleges from across India.

## Vice Chancellor Chaired 4<sup>th</sup> Governing Council meeting of SMVDU-TBIC



The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Governing Council of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Technology Business Incubation Centre Society (SMVDU-TBIC) was held on 20th Feb 2018. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor SMVDU and ex officio Chairperson of the Governing Council of the Society. The other members who attended the meeting were, Dr. Abdul Rashid, Secretary DoST, J&K Government, Prof. V.K. Bhat Registrar SMVDU, Prof. V. Verma Dean Faculty of Engineering SMVDU, Dr. Sushil K. Mehta, Head School of Business, Dr. Kumud R. Jha Head of School of Electronic and Communication, Dr. Ashutosh Vashishtha, Coordinator SMVDU-TBIC and Dr. Mehrajudin Bhat, Joint Director J&K Government S&T Department. Dr. Swarkar Sharma, Interim CEO SMVDU-TBIC and member secretary apprised members of the various activities and procedures of the society. All the members appreciated the initiatives taken by SMVDU-TBIC, to promote entrepreneurship and support the innovations in the State of J&K. In the meeting, Chairperson Dr. Sanjeev Jain suggested that SMVDU-TBIC should work towards promoting innovations leading to manufacturing and product development & efforts should be more on creating outreach to extreme locations of the State. He said that seeking innovative ideas and the creation of Intellectual property within the State, to increase the domestic productions and value addition, would result in more job creation in J&K. Dr. Rashid said that J&K DST will provide support the best possible way in this quest of SMVDU TBIC. Dr. Swarkar Sharma apprised the council members about the performance of SMVDU-TBIC. He informed that SMVDU-TBIC has utilized DST sanctioned grant in last financial year to greater extent by building efficient high-tech resources. These setups are to be made available for prototype development. The council has been informed that SMVDU-TBIC along with support from SMVDU Startup Cell (TEQIP III) is also working towards development of a Tinkering lab, to create open environment for scientific behavior, innovation and creativity for the students of the institution. The facility will be a common platform linking various fields for innovation. It will have computational facilities with advanced equipments like 3D printers, Multi-layer circuit printer, fabrication facility etc. SMVDU-TBIC has received funds from NSTEDB, Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India under the NIDHI-Seed Support Scheme in order to further support the innovative ideas and physically incubated startups. Additionally, SMVDU-TBIC also has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with J&K Bank with the main objective to support the Startups. Dr. Sharma informed members that SMVDU has recently revised its IP policy and developed an IP Management and Standing Committee (IPMSC). The committee will develop procedures for execution of activities related to IP management like patent filing, as well as commercialization like technology transfer etc. and on the lines, an agreement has been signed with a TIFAC approved firm K&S Partners as facilitator. Keeping a unique integration of academia, industry, government and other entities in the startup ecosystem, SMVDU-TBIC has kept its online application portal open 24x7 at its website [www.smvdutbic.org](http://www.smvdutbic.org). It was informed that Techno-preneurs from all across the state are welcome to participate and for any enquiries can contact SMVDU-TBIC.

## National Conference at School of Physics



School of Physics organized two-days National Conference on Emerging Trends in Materials Science, NCETMS-2018, sponsored by TEQIP-III and J&K Bank. Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Conference Chair and Head, School of Physics, welcomed all the dignitaries. Chief Guest Prof. Jagdish P. Singh, who is an Emeritus Professor at Energy Institute and Department of Physics and Astronomy, addressed the audience and emphasized how nanotechnology evolved over time and has influenced the modern society. Prof. Singh is also the fellow of Optical Society of America, USA, and Laser and Spectroscopy Society of India. This was followed by the address from Guest of Honor Prof. V. K. Bhat, Dean Faculty of Sciences. Dr. Kamni delivered vote of thanks. The prime objective of this conference was to exchange scientific knowledge among the researchers and to disseminate information about recent emerging trends in Materials Science. It also provides an opportunity and motivation to young scientists, researchers, students and entrepreneurs in these fields to enrich their knowledge by interacting with their peers in respective areas. The conference has been attended by research students, academics personals and delegates from Industry. Conference included 2 plenary lectures, 7 Invited talks, 2 Oral Presentations and more than 60 Poster presentations. The various topics broadly pertain to material science and allied fields will be discussed in technical sessions of the conference. The conference was convened by Dr. Kamni, under the co-convenor-ship of Dr. Jitendra Sharma and Dr. Vivek Kumar Singh. Dr. Ram Praksh and Mr. Pankaj Biswas were the Organizing Secretary and Joint Secretary, respectively.

## Week Long TEQIP-III Sponsored FDP



A Week-Long Faculty Development Program on Sustainable Design and Manufacturing (SDM-2018) was organized by the School of Mechanical Engineering from 12 to 16 February. The program aimed at highlighting the various fundamentals of sustainability and its role in the present industrial scenario. The program was coordinated by Dr. Ankush Anand. He briefed all the participants about the need of sustainability in design and manufacturing environment. Dr. Anand also thanked the Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain for his constant encouragement to organize such programs in the University. Experts from IIT's, IIITDM, etc. delivered lectures on new trends in the area of sustainable design and manufacturing. 37 Faculty members from various disciplines of Engineering, Science and, Technology from various parts of the country have registered for the program, which is sponsored by TE-QIP-III at the University. Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. V. Verma was the chief guest at the occasion. Prof. Verma spoke about the importance of organizing such courses which will keep the faculty abreast with the latest developments in the field of sustainability in Design and Manufacturing. Head, School of Mechanical Engineering, Dr. Balbir Singh also spoke on the occasion. Prof. Vinay Sharma, Head, Production Engineering Department, Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra delivered the Introductory Lecture on "Sustainable Development through Lean and Six Sigma Tools". During the inaugural ceremony, Faculty, Staff and Research Scholars of the School were present. The proceedings of the event were carried out by Er. Mir Irfan-UI-Haq. Er. Rajiv Kumar proposed the vote of thanks.

### SMVDU introduces new Engineering courses

Upon the approval of the Chancellor and the Governor of J&K State, Sh. N.N. Vohra, who is also the Chairman of the Executive Council of the University, three new engineering programs (B.Tech.) are being introduced in the University from the academic session beginning from July 2018. These programs are B.Tech. in:

- **Civil Engineering**
- **Electrical Engineering**
- **Food Technology**

These programs will be run as per All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) norms. Accordingly, new departments are being created and their respective Board of Studies are meeting shortly for designing curriculum, keeping in view the need of the industry, infrastructure sector, and significant rise in the food industry. The University is taking all measures for launching the new programs. The University is also initiating its own entrance examination – Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Engineering Entrance (SMVDUEE-2018) from this year for encouraging quality intake from all corners of the country. This examination will be held in the month of April this year.

### Special session on Nature and Spirituality



NSS organized a special lecture on Understanding Nature and Spirituality as a foundation for Health, Harmony & Happiness. The lecture was delivered by Dr. N.C. Jain, IFS, Rajasthan Cadre. In this, Dr. Jain explained the notion of nature and how it is related to spirituality. The talk began with a video presentation on spiritual reality – a journey within. This self-explanatory and exploratory video discussed how meditation conquers stress and leads to happiness. He further stressed that meditation is the supreme means to attain the path of liberation. The talk was attended by both students and faculty members of the University. Ar. Aditya

former Head, School of Architecture and Landscape Design, was also present during the lecture. The talk was both informative and comprehensive and thus, got very well appreciated. The session concluded with a vote of thank to the speaker by Mr. Suman-ta S. Sharma, Faculty Coordinator, NSS. The event was coordinated by NSS volunteers, namely Mr. Aman Agrawal, Mr. Dhanraj and Ms. MaihakPandita.

### Medical and ENT Check-up Camp

Medical Aid Centre organized General Medical and ENT Check-up Camp of 1<sup>st</sup> year students of the University. The camp was conducted under the instruction of the Vice Chancellor Dr. Sanjeev Jain. Dr. Anju Sharma in-charge Medical Officer/ENT Specialist along with her team Dr. Supinder Singh and Dr. R. Z. Ahmed examined of 1<sup>st</sup> year students and provided free medicines and Lab services during screening of students and health education to



them. Besides above, Paramedical Staff Mrs. Basanti Kumari, Ms. Alka Saini, Mr. Manish Kumar, Mr. Vijay Kumar also participated in the camp for screening various students. Total 200 students of 1<sup>st</sup> year were examined. The aim of medical camp was to screen students for communicable and Non-communicable diseases and health awareness among students to lead a healthy life.

### Possibilities for Tourism Projects discussed with Minister of Tourism

In view of its pledge to contribute to the cause of Jammu and Kashmir, the students and faculty members, School of Architecture and Landscape Design (SALD), met Hon'ble Minister of Tourism (J&K), Shri Tassaduq Hussain Mufti, on 14<sup>th</sup> February. The School under the leadership of Dr. Rajeev Garg made a presentation of their work for improving the potential of tourism in Jammu and Kashmir. The Head presented credentials and capabilities of faculty team along Dr. V. K. Dogra and Ar. Vishal Bhatti. The students of B. Arch. presented their portfolio of project works before Hon'ble Minister and other officials which included Mrs. Smita Sethi Director Tourism, Mrs. Anju Gupta. General Manager, Tourism and other officials of department. Hon'ble minister appreciated work of faculty and students and expressed his trust and interest in association with SALD, for the projects of JK Tourism with active involvement of faculty members and the students. He advised to further explore the possibilities of offering internship and job opportunities and engagement of SALD with projects of JK Tourism.



### JNTU Prof. Y. Aparna delivered lecture



School of Physics organized a special lecture on “NaNo Materials”. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Y. Aparna, Professor and Head, Department of Physics, at JNTU College of Engineering, Hyderabad. The lecture began with an introduction on chronological developments in the field exploiting Nano science and technology. Concepts linked to the fundamentals behind the science and technology of materials at the nanoscale and their potential applications were explained beautifully to the audience. Different methods of synthesis of nanomaterials and possible tools of their characterization were discussed. The talk being interdisciplinary in nature addressed larger audience involving science and engineering. The session ended with vote of thanks to the speaker by Dr. Jitendra Sharma, the faculty coordinator for the event.

### JNTU Prof. T. Satya Savitri delivered lecture



A guest lecture and faculty interaction of Prof. T. Satya Savitri, Head, ECE, JNTU College of Engineering Hyderabad, under the TEQIP-III Program was organized at School of Electronics and Communication Engineering. Prof. Satya Savitri discussed the fundamentals of Digital Image Processing and presented a detailed presentation and apprised the audience about the areas in the field of Digital Image Processing. The presentation was very elaborative in nature and student, faculty and the staff members of SoECE and SoCSE attended the lecture. She discussed about the new field of digital forensic which is becoming a major area of research and motivated the audience to pursue this area. The lecture was followed by interaction and discussion with the faculty of ECE. Mr. Ashish Suri discussed how the students of SoECE can be placed in the companies which visit JNTU regularly and how the students of SMVDU can get summer internship with the companies which have MoU with JNTU. Prof Satya Savitri interacted with the students & staff and appreciated the infrastructure and the research output of the School. Dr. Sumeet Gupta, Dean Academic Affairs felicitated the speaker and the vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Amit Kant Pandit.

### 30<sup>th</sup> Academic Council meeting held

The Academic Council meeting was held on 14 Feb. the meeting was chaired by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain. External experts Prof. K.K. Biswas, retd. from IIT Delhi; Prof. Rajesh Srivastav, IIT Roorkee; Prof. Sunil Pandey, IIT Delhi; Prof. S. Dharmaraja, IIT Delhi; Sh. Lokesh Saxena, MD, DISHA India Ltd;; Registrar Prof. V.K. Bhat; Associate Dean Academic Affairs Dr. Sumeet Gupta; all the Deans, Heads of all Schools attended the meeting. The main issues on the agenda items included deliberation upon the recommendations of the Academic Audit Committee; amendment in Ph.D. ordinances; admission procedure for Post



Doctoral program; recommendations of SRC SALD; introduction of course on disaster management; conferring the *honouris causa* doctorates upon Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman Bharti Enterprises and Mr. Pawan Munjal, CEO Hero MotoCorp Ltd.; . The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

### Mega Economics Festival 'Artha' held



Whipping into shape on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2018, the School of Economics inaugurated a mega fest: ARTHA. The festival was inaugurated by the Mr. Zorawar Singh, General Secretary, Jammu Press Club, a young and dynamic face in Media. He shared his life experience and emphasized on the importance of team spirit with Rashtriya Bhakti. He also mentioned the problem of drug abuse and asked students to be away from any such vices. The inaugural session witnessed the presence of Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay, Dean, Faculty of Management, Prof. V.K. Bhat, Registrar of the University, Prof. Yugal Khajuria, the Dean of Students. The speakers applauded the efforts of the students of School of Economics and emphasized upon the creative platforms like these events, provided by the University. The three-day event has galore of events. On day one the highlight

events were guest lecture of Dr. Swarkar Sharma, CEO SMVDU TBIC, regarding how students can take up the startup, Mr. Kulwant Singh, Assistant Prof. School of Economics, regarding the new evolving economic opportunities, formal event Future Chanakya, discussions and debates on smoldering topics such as Why Should Government Subsidize Farmers? For school students and Population of India: An Asset or Liability for Economic Growth for college students. Other events included Balam Pichkari, Bff's, Balloons Stomp, Ball Bopping, Impromptu Poetry Contest, Ice Cream Sticks Modelling, House Of Cards, Beads Show, Stop and Throw, and The Dice Game. The event 'Artha' witnessed various competitive and knowledge gaining events such as future Chanakya, Quizonomics, Ecoscrap etc. The event had participation of the students of various schools and colleges across India. The festival was followed by the award giving ceremony. SPMR College and APS bagged first position in Future Chanakya. Students from SPMR College and SPMR School won first prize in Quizonomics and Rock-O-Nomics, while GCW Udampur won first prize in Shipwreck, KC Public School and APS Sain Xaviers, KV-I, were winners in Delve through the lens of Nature. Prof. D. Mukhopadhaya, Dean Faculty of Management, distributed the prizes and encouraged students for their enthusiastic participation. The event Artha was ornamented by a vivacious cultural night to supplement the festival in more rampant manner. The successful organisation of the event motivated the students.

### National Congress on 'International Mother Language Day'



Two-Day National Congress on “International Mother Language Day” organized by School of Languages and Literature was organized on 21<sup>st</sup> February. Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay, Dean, Faculty of Management, was the chief guest of the occasion. Prof. Mukhopadhyay highlighted the prominence of commemorating such events and congratulated the entire team for conducting the first ever congress on this topic, in the region. Dr. Amitabh Dwivedi, Head of the School, presented the Inaugural address, highlighting how such events assist in promoting linguistic and cultural diversity. Dr. Anurag Kumar, the convener of the event welcomed the esteemed dignitaries and participants in the celebration of recognizing and promoting multilingualism. The inaugural session was followed by “Meet the Writer” session where renowned journalist and writer, Mrs. Yogita Yadav presented self-composed short story entitled “Galat Pate ki Chitthi”. Eminent academician, Prof. Desh Bandhu Dogra Nutan presented his valuable insights on “Dogra, Duggar and Dogri”. Further, Prof. Sukhchain Singh from University of Jammu had a heartening session on “Ghazals”. Prof. Raj Kumar, distinguished intellectual from Central University of Jammu projected the significance of “Matribhasha se Bhasha ka Vikas”. Dr. Radha Rani from University of Jammu presented a self-composed narrative “Janamdin”. Prof. Divendra Thakur prominent academician from Ramnagar had an interactive session on “Kesh Dogri Gallan”. “Meet the Writer” session was followed by sessions on various national languages. Dr. Ranbir Kaur, Assistant Professor, School of Languages and Literature, presented the vote of thanks.



## Cultural Evening in National Congress on International Mother Language Day



Cultural evening to promote linguistic and cultural diversity was celebrated in the Two-Day National Congress on “International Mother Language Day” organized by School of Languages and Literature. The event had colorful performances by various performers from different parts of the state as well as from the University itself. At the very inception, Paras Dubey, Student performed a Kuchipudi Dance. It was followed by Street-Play on the theme “Kawad” by Red Arts Punjab Club. Dr. Anurag Kumar gave an amusing Awadhi performance on Rafiq Shadani’s “UlluHau”. Dr. Ranbir Kaur and Ms. Sarabjeet Kaur gave a melodious performance “Madaniya”. Ms. Bhushan Sharma and students of School of Languages and Literature gave an enthralling performance on Poonchi Folk Tradition. A young girl Vaishnavi Sharma narrated self-composed story “A Wishing Star”. Further, Bharderwahi Folksong by renowned singer Chain Singh was also a part of the cultural evening. Finally, the Bhangra group from University of Jammu entertained the audience with their enthralling performance.

## International Conference on “Economic Growth and Structural Changes: Trend, Pattern and Policies”



A Two-day International Conference on “Economic Growth and Structural Changes: Trend, Pattern and Policies” was organized by School of Economics from 23-24 February. Mr. Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjoora, Minister for Agriculture Production, Jammu & Kashmir Government, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University also graced the occasion. Other dignitaries included Dr. Anil Kumar Thakur, General Secretary and Treasurer, Indian Economic Association, Dr. Devendra Awasthi, Joint Secretary, Indian Economic Association along with Prof. Dr. Mukhopadhyay, Dean Faculty of Management, Prof. B. Kamaiah, Head, School of Economics and participants from India and abroad. The Chief Guest, Mr. Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjoora, after extending thanks to all the SMVDU members, explained the role of agricultural sector in

the Jammu and Kashmir as well as in the Indian economy. He raised his concern regarding various issues like agricultural land shrinkage and farmer suicides in the agricultural sector. He also mentioned the possible role of centrally sponsored schemes in agriculture like “Fasal Bhima Yojna” and the proposal of vegetable clusters in J&K. The minister highlighted the vision of doubling the income of the farmers by 2022. He said that state government is committed to provide full support to the farmers and would welcome advice of researchers, academicians and practitioners. Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor extended thanks to the chief guest and expressed that School of Economics is a budding School in SMVDU and deserve appreciation for organizing good number of good quality events, in a short span of time. He asked the students and researchers to focus on the millennium development goals in their research. The Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay, Dean Faculty of Management welcomed the gathering while Prof. B. Kamaiah, briefed about the School and the Conference. He mentioned that this conference is important in terms of its timing since India as well as the world is moving towards structural changes. Dr. Anil Kumar Thakur, General Secretary and Treasurer, Indian Economic Association delivered the inaugural speech. He explored the glory of Indian Economic association and expressed thanks to School of Economics for the collaboration in conduction of this International Conference. Dr. Devendra Awasthi, Joint Secretary, Indian Economic Association also add some valuable points about the contribution of Indian economic Association and extent hearty wish for the success of the Conference. Local Organizing Secretary, Dr. Kakali Majumdar, presented the Vote of thanks and informed that thee Conference has evoked massive response and more than 150 participants having registered for the event from all over India and abroad.

### Expert talk by Birla White Cement Company at School of Architecture

Expert talk and presentation by Birla White Cement Company (Aditya Birla Group) was organized by the School of Architecture and Landscape Design. The talk was organized as part of the Institute-Industry interactions under Field-Studies course which aims at providing real-time experience and field exposure to the students. Approximately 75 students from B.Arch. attended the expert talk. Prof.

Prof. Rajeev Garg introduced the speaker and topic of the talk to the students. Mr. Sharad Vyas, Head, Key Accounts and Projects, along with his team members Mr. Gaurav Khat-tar and Mr. Vikram Sharma



introduced the company’s profile, organizational set up followed by the products dealt by the company with few ready samples also. The talk comprehensively covered the product manufacturing, installation and its benefits over comparable products from other makes. Presentation also covered very few prestigious projects dealt by the company in recent past with key innovations involved in the projects. Application of Glass Reinforced Concrete (GRC) was highly appreciated in view of its versatile nature and potential of use in built environment. Expert talk also contained the details of Birla White Yuvaratna Awards-2018 announced by the company, which are awarded on the basis of design competition between the students of architecture under different themes. It was informed to the experts that students of SMVDU participate in the awards every year with full enthusiasm and this year too, students are working on their design concepts. The response of the students was well applauded by the expert. The expert talk ended with the vote of thanks by Prof. Rajeev Garg, followed by the healthy interaction between Birla White representatives and students. The talk was organized and coordinated by Prof. Garg, Ar. Anoop Sharma and Ar. Abhimanyu Sharma.

## ICCR Jammu presented 'Anjusha Live'



Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in association with Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, showcased a musical concert 'Anjusha Live' featuring promising young singer Anjusha Sharma and her band at the majestic Matrika Auditorium on 28<sup>th</sup> February evening. At the very outset, Regional Director of ICCR Jammu and Kashmir Sh. Balwant Thakur informed that ICCR always endeavors to give a platform to the promising talents under its popular programme 'Horizon Series'. The prime mandate of Indian Council for Cultural Relations is to take India to the world and bring world to India. While welcoming the guests, President Board of Cultural activities Dr. Varun Kumar Tripathi assured all possible help for the presentation of such programs which are aimed at educating the fraternity of students about the rich cultural heritage. Anjusha Sharma shot to fame after becoming the winner of All India Devotional Songs Competition. She recently conducted an International tour of performances and held successful shows in Canada and British Columbia. A proud participant on the National TV in the programs Like Zee Hero SaReGaMa, Aawaaz Punjab Di and Indian Idol, Anjusha also has two musical albums entitled 'Suit Patiala' and Rang Sanwala to her credit. 'Anjusha Live' started with the screening of a video of her album 'Rang Sanwala' which has already been viewed by over one million audiences on YouTube. During her performance she vibrated the entire auditorium through her powerful singing. With the accompaniment of heavy rhythms, she prompted everyone to tap with the tunes of her songs. The program was professionally anchored by Dharun Kesar and light, sound and projections were aesthetically handled by Mr. Gaurav Jamwal. Dean of students Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Head School of Architecture Prof. Rajeev Garg, President Board of Sports Activities Mr. Rajeev Atri and many faculty and staff members, students witnessed the show.

## Extension Lecture on “Gender Sensitization” organized

An Extension Lecture on “Gender Sensitization” by Prof. Parvathi Vudumula was organized by School of Languages and Literature. Prof. Parvathi is Head, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at JNTUH College of Engineering, Hyderabad. Students of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University attended the lecture. In her session, she focused upon spreading awareness amongst students regarding Gender disparity that prevails in the society and who perpetuates such biased conceptions. At the end of her session, she interacted with the students who appreciated her efforts at sensitizing the youth which is the need of the hour. Dr. Amitabh Vikram Dwivedi, Head, School of Languages and Literature congratulated Prof. Parvathi for such a thought provoking and stimulating session. Further, Dr. Ranbir Kaur, Assistant Professor, School of Languages and Literature presented token of gratitude to Prof. Parvathi and thanked her for enriching the students with her ideas.



## Facility of Cytogenetics at SMVDU to benefit patients of J&K



Two days national workshop on Diagnostics Cytogenetics was held in School of Biotechnology Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Katra in association with M/S Lieca Biosystems India on, from 26-27 February 2018. More than 70 delegates comprising of Faculty, Research Scholars, MSc, B.Tech. students from University and other universities participated in the national level workshop. The Inaugural session was presided over by Prof. V.Verma, Dean Faculty of Engineering and Head School of Biotechnology, gave the formal address about the workshop and recently established central facility of Cytogenetics and Animal Tissue Culture in SMVDU. This facility will benefit the patients of Jammu and Kashmir with suspected genetic abnormalities. Key note Lecture was delivered by Mr. Rajiv Jaiswal senior Consultant Cytogenetics, M/S Lieca Biosystems India. He discussed various aspects of Cytogenetics and modern cytogenetic techniques. He demonstrated the use of the Scope and its applications. The second technical session started with hands-on training to the delegates about the metaphase capture and analysis. Third technical session started with an expert lecture by Dr. Parvinder Kumar, Assistant Professor, University of Jammu and Dr. Rakesh Kumar organizing secretary and Coordinator Cancer Genetics Research Group, SoBT SMVDU. Dr. Parvinder's talk focused on various congenital abnormalities prevalent in and around Jammu region. Dr. Rakesh spoke about various case reports of patients with Cytogenetic abnormality from North India. Dr. Rakesh Kumar presented vote of thanks. He thanked Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain for his support in establishing of animal tissue culture and Karyotypic. Dr. Rakesh also thanked his research scholars for their tireless efforts especially G. R. Bhat, Divya Bakshi, Amrita Bhat, Sonali Verma, Ruchi Shah, Itty Sethi, Bhanu Sharma and Minerva for the smooth conduct of the workshop. Divya Bakshi conducted the proceeding of the workshop and G. R. Bhat and Amrita helped in smooth conduct of Workshop.

## SMVDU organized special lecture on Drug Menace and Fast Food Culture

NSS at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University organized a special lecture on the growing Drug menace and Fast food culture yesterday. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Swarkar Sharma, who is the ccoordinator of Human Genetics Research Group, School of Biotechnology at the University. In the first part of his lecture, Dr. Sharma traced the trajectory of drugs usage by youngsters and concluded that stress is the primary factor. Students delve into such activities as a matter of adventure or a way out to relieve their ongoing stress. This hampers their physical and mental growth. There is a need to reduce stress in life and precaution is best cure against narcotics. In the second part, Dr. Sharma explained that sedentary life style does not need excessive calorie intake. Thus, fast food, which is high in calories adds to our ailments, worries and turns us ill. There is a need to adapt healthy and hygienic routine and take fast food responsibly. Diseases like, high blood sugar or pressure can be tackled once we refrain from fast foods. The lecture was interactive and students' queries were addressed both in between as well as at the end of the lecture. Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma, Faculty Coordinator NSS delivered vote of thanks to the speaker. The event was organized by NSS volunteers, namely, Mr. Aman, Mr. Dhanraj, Ms. Simran and Ms. Shubhangi.



## Faculty Update

### Dr. Balbir Singh empanelled as ZED Master-Trainer of QCI

Dr. Balbir Singh, Associate Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering, successfully completed five-day's workshop on "ZED Master-Trainer Training Program" organized by Allied Boston, training partner of Quality Council of India at Gurugram. Dr. Singh has been listed as ZED Master Trainer by QCI. ZED Certification Scheme is Zero Defect and Zero Effect which is launched by Government of India to promote 22,222 Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in first phase, to become globally competitive through financial support for assessment, ZED rating and certification. Dr. Singh has planned to work in consultation with MSME-DI of region to raise Industry awareness and training program on ZED Certification scheme, hence to improve the quality standards of industries. Further, to develop Industry-Institute partnership in region, 2<sup>nd</sup> Industry Academia Conclave (IAC-2018) is planned for March 2018 wherein common strategies can be explored for mutual benefits of Industries and Technical Institutions of region.



### Dr. Arif Billah Dar Awarded Prof. M. J. Manohar Rao Award

Dr. Arif Billah Dar, Assistant Professor, School of Economics, has been selected for the prestigious "Prof. M. J. Manohar Rao Award" for the year 2017. The award is given by the Indian Econometric Society to the young economics scholars (below 35 years) in India to commemorate Professor M. J. Manohar Rao's contributions to economic research as well as to The Indian Econometric Society. Dr. Arif will be receiving this award during the 54th Annual Conference of the Indian Econometric Society to be held in March 2018. Prior to joining SMVD University, Dr. Arif Billah Dar taught at the Institute of Management Technology Ghaziabad (IMT) one of the few AACSB accredited business schools in India. His research work has appeared in internationally acclaimed and reputed journals of Elsevier, Springer, Routledge and Emerald. His work has also appeared in some journals published by the globally reputed Economic institutions like Kiel Institute for the World Economy Germany, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys (CIRET), Center for Economic Integration South Korea and Polish Academy of Sciences Poland. He is also ranked among the top 25% economists in India by the Research Papers in Economics (RePEc), a database maintained and monitored by Federal Reserve Bank of Saint Louis, USA.



### Paper Presented/ Lectures Delivered

Dr. Sandeep Bhougal, Assistant Professor, School of Mathematics, attended the International Conference organized by Department of Mathematics, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, in conjunction with 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ISIAM). He presented a research paper entitled, "Sequential Procedures for the Point Estimation of the Mean of an Inverse Gaussian Reliability Model", which was well received and applauded.



Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Assistant Professor, School of Mathematics, delivered a talk on the title "Getting Familiar with Operations Research (OR)" in the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Jammu Mathematical Society, held during 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 at University of Jammu. Dr. Kumar in his talk cited various real life examples where OR can be useful, and discussed the history and development of OR. He explained how OR societies have been formed worldwide for its growth and development with the help of some real-time cases where OR has benefited a lot the organizations worldwide. It is pertinent to mention that Dr. Rakesh Kumar is a prominent researcher and mathematician at SMVDU, working for providing solutions to pertinent issues related to operations research in industry and other projects.



Dr. Surender Singh, Assistant Professor, School of Mathematics, presented a paper titled "On a dual Of residual uncertainty measure" in International & 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, 2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Dr. Surender Singh, Assistant Professor, School of Mathematics, delivered an invited talk "On measures Of knowledge and accuracy in the intuitionistic fuzzy environment and their applications" in National Seminar on Recent Advances in Complex Analysis Operator Theory, Department of Mathematics, University of Jammu, Jammu, 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Associate Professor, School of Philosophy & Culture, delivered a prestigious Chookolingam Memorial Lecture on the topic *Classical Indian Thoughts on State, Polity and Justice*, in the Dept. of Philosophy & Religion, BHU, Varanasi, on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb.

Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Associate Professor, School of Philosophy & Culture, delivered special lecture as visiting fellow on the topic *Buddhist Moral Psychology*, in the Dept. of Philosophy & Religion, BHU, Varanasi, on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb.

Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Associate Professor, School of Philosophy & Culture, conducted three sessions on the Jnanadhikara (6th Ahnika) of Pratyabhijna Vimarshini, in the National Workshop on Trika Philosophy, on 23<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> Feb., organized by the Academic Center of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), Lucknow.

Dr. Anil K. Tewari, Asst. Prof. School of Philosophy & Culture, participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Nalanda Dialogue on "Perception" organized by Nav Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar, from 22<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2018. He delivered a lecture on "A Phenomenological Approach to the Nyaya and Buddhist Controversy on Non-conceptual Perception".

Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Asst. Prof. School of Philosophy & Culture, participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Nalanda Dialogue on "Perception" organized by Nav Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar, from 22<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2018. He delivered a lecture on "Inner Awareness and Perceptual Consciousness: A Case Against Intrinsic HOT Theory".

## Publications

Dr. Roop Lal Sharma has published a book titled "Banks in Emerging Economic Environment in India", publisher LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, Germany, Feb., 2018 ISBN : 9787 -613-7-34808-6

Sanna Mairaj, Suhaib Ahmed, Vipin Kakkar, "A Survey on Emerging Technologies and Architectures of Low Power Preamplifiers for Biomedical Applications," International Journal of Nanoelectronics and Materials, Vol. 11, (1), Feb. 2018

Sanna Mairaj, Suhaib Ahmed, Vipin Kakkar, "An Optimized Low-Noise Low-Power Preamplifier for Cardiac Implants," International Journal of Nanoelectronics and Materials, Vol. 11, No. (1), Feb. 2018

Vipin Kakkar, An Ultra Low Power System Architecture for Implantable Medical Devices, IEEE Access, Vol. 6 (99), Feb. 2018

Bisma Bilal, Suhaib Ahmed, Vipin Kakkar, "An Insight into Beyond CMOS Next Generation Computing using Quantum-dot Cellular Automata Nanotechnology," International Journal of Engineering and Manufacturing, vol. 8, no. 1, 2018, pp. 25-37.

India Gold Policy Centre, Indian Institute of Management Ahmadabad has published Dr. Arif Billah Dar's work as a working paper titled "Gold, Gold Mining Stocks and Equities -Exploring their Hedge, Diversifier and Safe Haven Properties in Developed Markets" link: [https://www.iima.ac.in/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=a34f08fc-c2d4-406b-85e456126d8adac8&groupId=62390&filename=Abs\\_Manas%20Paul@IGPC%20Conf](https://www.iima.ac.in/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=a34f08fc-c2d4-406b-85e456126d8adac8&groupId=62390&filename=Abs_Manas%20Paul@IGPC%20Conf)

## Students Update

### Sehar Shakeel Raina, Sonam Sharma and Charu Sharma awarded fellowships from ICIAM

Sehar Shakeel Raina, research scholar of School of Mathematics attended 3 days International Conference in conjunction with 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Industrial and Applied Mathematics jointly organized by Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics and International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and presented a research paper entitled "On a-Normality and b-Normality in Relative Topology". She was awarded with the fellowship from International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics for attending this conference. It is worth mentioning that SeharShakeel Raina is an INSPIRE fellow and pursuing her Ph.D. under Dr. A. K. Das, Head School of Mathematics.



Sonam Sharma, Research Scholar, School of Mathematics, presented a research paper entitled 'On Generalized Length- Biased Weighted Residual and Past Inaccuracy' in "International Conference in Conjunction with 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics" jointly organized by Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics and International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. She was awarded with the fellowship from International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics for attending this conference.



Charu Sharma, Research Scholar, School of Mathematics, presented a research paper entitled 'Generalized Orlicz Hilbert Sequence Spaces' in International Conference in Conjunction with 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics" jointly organized by Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics and International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. She was awarded with the fellowship from International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics for attending this conference.



Anu Choudhary, Research Scholar, School of Mathematics, presented a research paper entitled 'On Some Lucas Difference Sequence Spaces' in International Conference in Conjunction with 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics jointly organized by Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics and International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab from 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.



Sumita Lalotra, Research Scholar, School of Mathematics, presented a research paper entitled 'On a Dual Measure of Intuitionistic Fuzzy Entropy' in International Conference in Conjunction with 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics jointly organized by Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics and International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab from 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.



### Tarun Bali offered Master's in Governance at SOG Pune

Mr. Tarun Bali, S/o Sh. Indu Bhushan Bali, and a student of M.Tech. Electronics and Communication Engineering is offered admission into Master's Program in Governance by the MIT School of Governance Pune. Mr. Tarun had participated in the Indian Student Parliament, organized by the School in the month of January, when he impressed the organizer by his speech and got encouragement to pursue the program in governance there. He further went through the entrance examination and online interview process last week, in which he was finally declared selected.



## Students participated in CU Cultural Festival

A group of 5 students, namely Vaibhav Mahajan, Ashish Verma, Abhinav Slatia, Mritunjay Parogtra and Deuvan Kesar, participated in the annual cultural festival of Chandigarh University, held from 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> February. They participated in the musical event 'War of Bands' and their performance was appreciated.

## Surbhi Sharma attended GIAN Course at JNU

Ms. Surbhi Sharma, researcher, School of Languages & Literature, attended 'One week GIAN course' on "Twentieth Century Narrative: Five African American Practitioners" organized by School of Languages, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Prof. Amritjit Singh, former President MELUS and SALA, & Professor of English and African American Studies at Ohio University, was the course instructor. He delivered his lectures on the topics such as understanding the significance of African American writing in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century; Exploring issues of class, ideology and gender in American culture; and Encouraging and supporting comparative readings between African American and Ethnic American Literature and Indian Literatures. Ms. Surbhi also made a presentation on the topic- 'Writing of W.E.B. Du Bois: On our Spiritual Strivings'.

## B. Arch. Students got International Exposure

Students of School of Architecture and Landscape design, shared their internship experience in national and international countries with high-profile Architects e.g. at Germany, Turkey, Czech Republic, Indonesia etc. The students went through the internship as a part of their curriculum, and spent full semester internship (professional practice) at reputed offices within and outside the country. Subsequently; the experiences, work and other visits conducted by the students in this period was presented before a panel of external and internal jurors for evaluation at the end of the internship. School of Architecture conducted the evaluation of the internship through a 3-member jury panel consisting of Dr. (Ar.) Amitava Sarkar (NIT Hamirpur), Ar. Vishal Abrol (Architect, Jammu) and Ar. Navin Gupta (Internal Coordinator of Internship). Many students got opportunities with reputed offices across India e.g. at Hyderabad, Auroville, Pune, Mumbai, Delhi, Ahmadabad etc.



The external examiners applauded the works of the students immensely and congratulated the Head of the School, Prof. Rajeev Garg and faculty members of the school for the good internship opportunity provided to the students with related support thereof. A two day internship jury concluded with the formal lecture by the experts on formal practices of Architecture and group interaction with the batch.

## B. Arch. students exhibited their works at GCET

School of Architecture and Landscape Design displayed its students work at two-day 5<sup>th</sup> National Conference and exhibition on "Emerging and Innovative Trends in Engineering Technology (NCEEITET), organized by GCET Jammu in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, from 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2018. Architecture students displayed their Architectural Design, Art and Other work including building models at the exhibition organized by the organizers. The exhibition was applauded by the Hon'ble Minister of Education Mr. Altaf Bukhari and MoS Ms. Priya Sethi, on day 01 of the exhibition. Further, it was adjudicated by Mr. Chander Parkash Ganga, Hon'ble Minister of Industries and commerce on day 02 of the convention; which also resulted in healthy interaction of SMVDU students with the Hon'ble Minister. From the School of Architecture and Landscape Design, three students Mr. Anchit, Mr. Debadatta and Mr. Hardik exhibited the works of B.Arch. Students at GCET convention.



Ar. Anoop Sharma from SMVDU coordinated the exhibition of Architecture students at GCET. The SMVDU's particular exhibition stall has a good response from nationwide visitors including faculty, students and researchers of different organizations like DRDO, Konkan Railways, IRCOn, STERLITE, JKSPDC, NIELIT, J&K BANK, NHPC, BSNL etc. Prof. Rajeev Garg, Head of School of Architecture congratulated the faculty and students for participation in the exhibition.



## Students Presented/Published Papers

Mr. Ram Krishan, DST INSPIRE Fellow and Research Scholar, School of Mathematics, attended International Conference & 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Indian Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ISIAM- 2018) at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab, from 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2018, sponsored by DST, CSIR and ICIAM and presented his research paper entitled "A Note on Properties of Difference of Composition Operators."

Ms. Akshita Gupta and Ms. Shriya Sundhan, M.Tech. Research Scholars, perusing their M.Tech. Dissertation under supervision of Dr. Sachin Kumar Gupta, Assistant Professor, School of Electronics and Communication Engineering, attended two days International Conference on Optical & Wireless Technologies OWT 2018, held in the Malaviya National Institute of Technology (MNIT) Jaipur, from 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> February, 2018. The theme of the conference was "To bring current researches being carried out in the areas of Optical Communication, Photonics, Optics, Wireless Communication, and Mobile Communications for scientists, scholars, engineers and students from the universities, technologists, entrepreneurs and policymakers all around the World on a Common platform." During the conference Ms. Akshita Gupta and Ms. Shriya Sundhan presented a research papers entitled "Review for Capacity and Coverage Improvement in Aerially Controlled Heterogeneous Network" and "Survey on Significance of UAV Assisted Random Heterogeneous Network", respectively. The presented papers will be published in Springer book Series, Book Title of "Optical and Wireless Technologies", Lecture Notes in Electrical Engineering (LNEE). Ms. Meenu Sharma, research scholar, presented a seminar titled "A genome-wide screen for *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* deletion mutants that affect telomere length". Telomeres are nucleoprotein structures present at the ends of eukaryotic chromosomes that play a central role in guarding the integrity of the genome by protecting chromosome ends from degradation and fusion. Length regulation is central to telomere function. To broaden knowledge about the mechanisms that control telomere length, Authors in this paper have carried out a systematic examination of 4,800 haploid deletion mutants of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* for telomere-length alterations. By using this screen, they have identified >150 candidate genes not previously known to affect telomere length. In two-thirds of the identified mutants, short telomeres were observed; whereas in one-third, telomeres were lengthened.



Ms. Neelu Raina, research scholar Presented a seminar titled 'Physicochemical pretreatment of pine needle biomass by design of experiments approach for efficient enzymatic saccharification' in the bioinformatics lab, SMVDU.

### Lucky Gupta presented "Maa Mujhe Tagore Bana De"

Mr. Lucky Gupta, a noted theater artist, presented the street play "Maa Mujhe Tagore Bana De" at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. evening. This story of the play revolves around the philosophical journey of a boy named *Budduram* and his craving for proper education. Inspired by Mohan Bhandari's Punjabi tale with the same name, this story showed the desire of *Budduram* to write poetry and to become the next Rabindranath Tagore. Lucky's artistic skills prove to be very impressive as he moulds himself into different characters in just a flying second. He is a highly skilled artiste and has



been performing the same play for several years now with his performance in SMVDU being 1061<sup>st</sup>. This play is solely performed in Hindi but language has never been a barrier in communicating *Budduram*'s story. Apart from hundreds of students, a number of faculty and staff, Dean of Students Dr. Yugal Khajuria, President BCA Dr. V.K. Tripathi, Dr. Rakesh Kumar and Mr. Gaurav Jamwal were present. Sahil, Vaibhav and Aarohi managed the show.

## University organized “Mathematics for Engineers” on National Science Day

School of Mathematics of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University organized “Mathematics for Engineers” on 28<sup>th</sup> February, which is celebrated as National Science Day. A competition on the mathematical ability of engineering students was conducted. Students from various Institutes from Jammu participated in the competition. Ashutosh Trivedi and Ashish Dagar from Indian Institute of Technology, Jammu, won 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prize respectively. Third prize was shared between Sivam Kumar and Aman Agarwal from IIT Jammu and SMVDU respectively. In the prize distribution ceremony, Dr A. K. Das, Head, School of Mathematics and Convener of the event, explained the importance of Mathematics in other branches of Science and Engineering. Prof V. K. Bhat, Dean, Faculty of Science congratulated the prize winners and spoke on the application of Mathematics in Engineering. Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Kuldeep Raj, coordinator of the event. Dr Sandeep Bhogal, Dr Rakesh Kumar, Dr Surender Singh and Dr Sandeep Sharma were also present during the event.



## Social Responsibility

### Vikalp distributed shoes to the underprivileged

Vikalp – a students’ initiative for educating rural children, distributed shoes to underprivileged children and students of the nearby areas yesterday. The idea to distribute shoes was conceived by Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma, Faculty Coordinator, Vikalp. It was observed that a lot of kids and students of nearby places cannot afford shoes or any other footwear. Mr. Harjit Singh Slathia, Manager, J&K Bank, and Dr. Varun K. Tripathi, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, donated generously for the cause. All student volunteers have worked stupendously to make it a reality. It is pertinent to note that the students initiated the Vikalp program in January 2009, with a small team of thoughtful and motivated students, whose main aim was to bring about an overall social change in the society. Today the program has reached a point where more and more people have chosen to become a part of this program. The program has become successful beyond everyone expectations and is best illustrated by the students as ‘an alternative, a step taken by the SMVDU family to provide education to the underprivileged children which has played the role of a candle in their lives’.



### NSS distributed clothes, shoes and toys to construction workers

NSS distributed warm clothes, shoes, toys, etc. to the construction workers and their families yesterday. Students volunteering for NSS formed a group to initiate collection of clothes and other items from the campus in the month of December 2017. In this, students from Architecture, Electronics, Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering participated. Both faculty and staff members have donated generously for this noble concern. Some people have also given their children’s toys. These were repacked and distributed to the construction workers and their children residing in nearby areas of the University.



## ALUMNI CORNER

**Shray Gandotra**

**Alumnus of School of Mechanical Engineering**

**Currently, Data Scientist at Pitney Bowes**

SMVDU has been like a mother who loved me unconditionally for 4 years and is continuing to do so even after years of passing out by having given me so much, which helped build a strong personality and knowledge base for myself. The culture, the kind of interaction amongst teachers, students and staff at SMVDU is very fascinating. When you join the institution, from the very first day you get a feeling that you have arrived home, no matter your ethnicity, your beliefs, your language, you just feel like you are home in safe hands and everything from now on is going to be perfect. After getting placed from SMVDU in TCS (thanks to our seniors, we had a very great reputation at the organization and were put in the best of projects and were given best of opportunities), I worked for the organization for 2 years and got a good overview of how a multinational company works and gained knowledge about the ever growing world of data warehousing. I then moved on to an investment bank called Rand Merchant Bank where I travelled to South Africa several times and got deep insights into how investment banks work. I learned about banking as a domain and from technical perspective as well. Later on, I was promoted as a subject matter expert and team lead for data warehousing, I was handling 3 corporate banking projects when I decided to move on. Currently, I am working with Pitney Bowes, which is a fortune 500 company and also amongst the top 10 companies to work for in India. Here my domain is e-commerce and shipping. Pitney Bowes has a model which supports the parcel business. Ebay, Flipkart, Gati are our main clients in India and Amazon, Alibaba etc. are our competitors. Here I am working on data science and artificial intelligence projects.



I would like to suggest to the present students of SMVDU that they should be respectful to people and environment and most importantly be thankful for what you have. Life teaches you a lot and whatever you are going through right now, is for your better future. Once you move on to the real world to chase your dreams, do not ever forget to invest time in your happiness.